

Roberta
Essex, CT 06426

March 8, 2022

Honorable Roland Lemar
Transportation Committee
State Capitol Hartford, CT
HB 5366

Chairman Lemar,

I am writing in support of HB 5366 – An Act Concerning Revisions to the Motor Vehicle Statutes. I never thought I would find myself writing to a legislative committee especially transportation. I often advocate for things like mental health, addiction, housing, domestic violence and prevention.

Recently a member of my immediate family, who is under 21 and who I love with all my heart was diagnosed with Stargardt Disease. As a family we are devastated. There is no cure or treatment for this disease. His vision will only get worse. What will a young man living in rural CT be able to do without being able to drive. Loss of driving privileges could have devastating consequences for many young adults, including an inability to work and live a fulfilling and independent life.

While doing research on the disease I was introduced to new technology called Bioptics, which allows people with low vision to be able to drive. There are many programs to ensure they are taught how to use the Bioptics safely. They have been truly a miracle for many across the US and the world. I urge the committee to support the passing of HB 5366.

Thank you for your support,

Roberta